Newlands Project Final Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

Responsible Agency: United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Reclamation

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Abstract: This Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement describes and analyzes three alternatives for managing Reclamation-administered lands in the Newlands Project Planning Area, which is in the west-central Nevada counties of Washoe, Storey, Lyon, and Churchill. Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, is a continuation of the current management and is based on existing planning decisions. Alternative B, the Agency Preferred Alternative and proposed action, balances the demand for limited resources among competing human interests, land uses, and the conservation of natural and cultural resource values found in the planning area. Alternative C, the Conservation Alternative, emphasizes active management of natural and cultural resources and places less emphasis on resource use than under Alternative A. Planning issues addressed include supporting agricultural endeavors and ensuring irrigation in Reclamation's management practices; managing noxious and invasive plant species; determining how to manage livestock grazing; determining what types of recreation activities Reclamation will manage in the planning area; protecting the area's watershed and water quality; protecting public health and safety; and allowing oil and gas, mineral, geothermal, mill site, and renewable energy, while protecting resources.

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